

electronic device **100b** is shown in FIG. 9 displaying a touch-screen keyboard **440** on fifth surface **175b**.

[0031] Referring to FIG. 10, a double-fold portable electronic device in accordance with yet another embodiment is indicated generally at **100c**. Double-fold portable electronic device **100c** is substantially the same as double-fold portable electronic device **100** and like elements of double-fold portable electronic device **100c** bear the same reference characters, but followed by the suffix “c”. However, unlike double-fold portable electronic device **100**, double-fold portable electronic device **100c** is shown in FIG. 10 displaying a touchpad **445** on third surface **145c**.

[0032] Referring to FIG. 11, a double-fold portable electronic device in accordance with yet another embodiment is indicated generally at **100d**. Double-fold portable electronic device **100d** is substantially the same as double-fold portable electronic device **100** and like elements of double-fold portable electronic device **100d** bear the same reference characters, but followed by the suffix “d”. However, unlike double-fold portable electronic device **100**, double-fold portable electronic device **100d** is shown in FIG. 11 displaying a left half keyboard **457** on first surface **120d** and a right half keyboard **460** on fifth surface **175d**. Left half keyboard **457** contains the keys of the left half of a QWERTY keyboard and right half keyboard **460** contains the keys of the right half of a QWERTY keyboard.

[0033] Referring to FIG. 12, a double-fold portable electronic device in accordance with yet another embodiment is indicated generally at **100e**. Double-fold portable electronic device **100e** is substantially the same as double-fold portable electronic device **100** and like elements of double-fold portable electronic device **100e** bear the same reference characters, but followed by the suffix “e”. However, unlike double-fold portable electronic device **100**, double-fold portable electronic device **100e** is shown in FIG. 12 displaying a game control pad **465** on first surface **120e**.

[0034] While the embodiments discussed herein are directed to specific embodiments, it will be understood that subsets and variations of the embodiments are within the scope of the invention. For example, webcam **419** may be replaced by speakers. It is apparent to a person skilled in the art that keyboard **375**, as drawn is symbolic of a keyboard and that keyboard **375** may be a QWERTY keyboard **470** (see FIG. 13), a SURETYPE® keyboard **475** (see FIG. 14), telephone keyboard **480** (see FIG. 15), a QWERTZ keyboard, a QWERTU keyboard, a DVORAK, or other keyboards.

1. A multiple-fold portable electronic device comprising:
 - a first planar housing having at least two sides;
 - a second planar housing having at least two sides and connected to said first planar housing via a first joint such that said first housing and said second housing are foldable in relation to each other between a shut position and an open position; and
 - a third planar housing having at least two sides and connected to said second planar housing via a second joint such that said second housing and said third planar housing are foldable in relation to each other between the shut position and the open position
2. The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein each of said housings are substantially the same size such then when said electronic device is in said shut position and said open position said electronic device has the form factor of a hexahedron.
3. The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein said second planar housing is pivotable in relation to said first housing via said first joint such that said first housing and said

second housing are rotatable in relation to each other between at least a first parallel position and at least a first perpendicular position.

4. The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein said third planar housing is pivotable in relation to said second planar housing via said second joint such that said second planar housing and said third planar housing are rotatable in relation to each other between at least a second parallel position and at least a second perpendicular position.

5. The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein said sides connected to said joints are rounded.

6. The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein said first planar housing comprises a first and a second surfaces, an input device disposed on said first surface, said second planar housing comprises a third and a fourth surfaces, a first display screen disposed on said third surface, said third planar housing comprises a fifth and a sixth surfaces, a second display screen disposed on said fifth surface, said first, third and fifth surfaces all face the same general direction when said device is in said open position.

7. The portable electronic device of claim 6 wherein said first joint comprises a first rounded side and a first side surface, and said second joint comprises a second rounded side and a second flat side, said first surface, third surface, fifth surface, first rounded side, and second flat side all face the same general direction when said device is in said open position.

8. The portable electronic device of claim 7 wherein said input device is selected from a group consisting of QWERTY keyboards, SURETYPE keyboards, and game controllers.

9. The portable electronic device of claim 8 wherein said at least display screens is a touch screen.

10. The portable electronic device of claim 8 wherein said first rounded side comprises a trackwheel.

11. The portable electronic device of claim 10 wherein said first rounded side further comprises a first and a second buttons disposed on either side of said trackwheel.

12. The portable electronic device of claim 11 wherein said second rounded side comprises a webcam.

13. The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein said first planar housing comprises a first and a second surfaces, a first input device disposed on said first surface, said second planar housing comprises a third and a fourth surfaces, a display screen disposed on said third surface, said third planar housing comprises a fifth and a sixth surfaces, a second input device disposed on said fifth surface, said first, third and fifth surfaces all face the same general direction when said device is in said open position.

14. The portable electronic device of claim 13 wherein said first joint comprises a first rounded side and a first side surface, and said second joint comprises a second rounded side and a second flat side, said first surface, third surface, fifth surface, first rounded side, and second flat side all face the same general direction when said device is in said open position.

15. The portable electronic device of claim 14 wherein said first input device is the left half of a QWERTY keyboard and said second input device is the right half of said QWERTY keyboard.

16. The portable electronic device of claim 14 wherein said display screens is a touch screen.

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